



# Lunenburg Public Schools

**Loxi Jo Calmes**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, May 21, 2014  
Thomas C. Passios Building- 7:00 p.m.

## Minutes

### School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume  
Michael Mackin  
Colleen Shapiro  
Brendan Grady-absent  
Heather Sroka

### Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

### Recording Secretary

Liz Petersen

### Student Representative

Sophia Holman

### Guests

Peggy Proctor

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- \* Call to Order – Superintendent Calmes called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
  - \* Committee Reorganization –
    - Chairperson: Nomination of Dr. Gregory Berthiaume by Ms. Shapiro, no other nominees, Vote: Unanimous
    - Vice-Chairperson: Nomination of Mr. Michael Mackin by Ms. Shapiro, no other nominees, Vote: Unanimous
    - Secretary: Nomination of Heather Sroka by Dr. Berthiaume, no other nominees, Vote: Unanimous
    - Policy Development/Review: Nomination of Dr. Berthiaume and Colleen Shapiro by Mr. Mackin, Vote: Unanimous
    - Superintendent of Schools: Nomination of Loxi Jo Calmes by Dr. Berthiaume. Vote: Unanimous
    - Executive Board member to FLLAC: Nomination of Loxi Jo Calmes by Mr. Mackin, seconded by Ms. Shapiro, Vote: Unanimous
    - PTO Liason: Nomination of Heather Sroka by Committee, Vote: Unanimous
    - School Council Reps:
      - LHS- Michael Mackin
      - THMS- Colleen Shapiro
      - LPS- Heather Sroka
    - Payroll Warrant Signature: Nomination of Dr. Berthiaume by Mr. Mackin, seconded by Colleen Shapiro, Vote: Unanimous
    - School Building Committee: Nomination of Mr. Mackin and Ms. Shapiro by Dr. Berthiaume. Vote: Unanimous
  - \* Review and Approve Minutes
    - May 7, 2014 Regular Session MinutesAll the minutes were approved by Dr. Berthiaume and the committee.
  - \* Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures.

- \* Superintendent's Report
  - PARCC Testing: Review testing participation for next year. District must decide by end of June if it will participate in testing. If so, there will be no MCAS exams. The district will be held harmless if it chooses PARCC. Paper format will take place as we do not have the capability to have the electronic testing. PARCC is more consistent with Common Core Standards than MCAS. Dr. Berthiaume expressed his concern referring back to the beginning of MCAS implementation taking approximately 5 years to run smoothly, putting undue stress on staff and students. He is skeptical about the district's participation in PARCC in the early stages of implementation.
  - Budget Funding – The Senate numbers for Chapter 70 are proposing more relief in the Governor's budget this year if the numbers stay consistent. Small changes consist of:
    - a. Circuit Breaker: 70% reimbursement, threshold increased to \$13,000 per student, 75% over 4 years. Example: \$50,000 to Caldwell for tuition, 75% on \$5,000. The district has a \$45,000 deductible-once it reaches the \$45,000; it is 75% on the remainder.
    - b. Special Educator and Adjustment Counselor: Need to create a room at LHS to address the social/emotional needs of students to help keep students in our district. We may have two more students that will be placed out of district. The ACE Program will be moving to TCP to make room at LHS for this new space. We will need to find a way to fund this program.
- \* Student Representative's Report : none discussed
- \* School Building Committee Report – Mr. Mackin reported that early bidding packages, staging, site, and steel ordering documents are to be completed. 3 pre-qualifying bids are to be awarded in early June. MSBA meeting is scheduled for June 4<sup>th</sup>. On May 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a seminar regarding the contract process; attending will be the Superintendent, the Town Manager, Mr. Mackin, and the Inspector General. This will take place at Maynard High School where they will see the new facility and discuss the process.
- \* Public Comment: none noted.
- \* Old Business:
  - a. Budget: Dr. Berthiaume thanked the Town Manager as the Town is absorbing the \$27,000 gap in funding, creating a balanced budget for the school. Dr. Berthiaume suggested that the School Committee may want to think about having a reserve similar to the one that the Town has that was referred to at Town Meeting. Dr. Berthiaume made a motion to approve the school budget, Mr. Mackin seconded the motion, Vote: Unanimous
- \* New Business:
  - a. Puerto Rico Trip: Foreign Language Teacher Peggy Proctor relayed that this trip is half the cost of a European trip. There are flexible payment plans and many exciting activities planned. Last time they went, 15 students participated. Superintendent Calmes recognized Ms. Proctor for receiving recognition from the Secretary of education regarding student participation in her Organic language class. Superintendent Calmes recommended moving forward on the Europe trip. Mr. Mackin moved to recommend, seconded by Ms. Shapiro, Vote: Unanimous.
- \* Public Comment – none noted.
- \* Reports
  - a. Finance Committee –Dr. Berthiaume reported that there had been no meeting.
  - b. School Councils – school councils had met and spoke about the need for social, emotional and behavioral programs.
  - c. PTO – Ms. Shapiro reported that there is an upcoming Spring Fling fundraiser on June 8<sup>th</sup>. There had also been a discussion in reference to brainstorming more fundraising ideas.
  - d. Policy Sub-Committee: have not met recently, will plan a meeting at the end of the School Committee meeting.
  - e. Capital Planning Committee – They are currently done.
  - f. Wellness Advisory Committee –Have not met recently.
  - g. PAC/SAL – Ms. Shapiro reported that officers were chosen, Kelly Harvey, President and Pami Terren, Treasurer. A basic rights workshop is scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm and all are welcome.

- h. Acceptance & Diversity Committee: Dr. Berthiaume reported that the final presentation would take place at the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- i. Building Re-use Committee – Mr. Mackin reported that the next meeting will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- j. Other- New fingerprinting policy requirements to be implemented-law was put in place on July 1, 2013. System access and registration on loan to be discussed at the next Policy Development/Review meeting.

\* Items for Future Discussion: None discussed.

\* Executive Session – Dr. Berthiaume stated there was no need for Executive Session. Mr. Blake made a final motion to adjourn regular session. Ms. Shapiro seconded.

\* Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. at the conclusion of regular session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Petersen  
Recording Secretary